



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

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**For Immediate Release
September 15, 2011**

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Jerome E. Horton Announces Annual Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings in Sacramento on September 20, 2011

Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced that the annual Taxpayers' Bill of Rights hearings will be held Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at the BOE headquarters building in Sacramento. The annual Taxpayers' Bill of Rights hearings provide a forum for business and property taxpayers to present ideas for improving the administration of tax programs at the BOE.

"During these challenging economic times, we are committed to ensuring that every taxpayer is heard," said Horton. "By listening to taxpayers' ideas and concerns, we help families, individuals and small businesses across California while also helping local economies during our economic recovery."

Each year the elected Board Members of the California State Board of Equalization hold public hearings in Sacramento and Culver City. Taxpayers are encouraged to share their ideas and concerns related to the administration and oversight of business taxes and property taxes at the BOE. In addition to safeguarding the rights, privacy, and property of taxpayers, Board Members are interested in discussing ways they can help taxpayers better understand California's state tax laws.

What: Property and Business Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearing
When: Tuesday, September 20, 2011
Approximately 1:30 P.M.
Where: State Board of Equalization Headquarters Building
450 N Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings in Sacramento will be webcast live at www.boe.ca.gov. Taxpayers interested in making a presentation at the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings are invited to contact the BOE Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office by calling 888-324-2798, or by email at www.boe.ca.gov/info/emailtra.htm. More information about the annual hearings is available online at www.boe.ca.gov/meetings/heartra.htm. The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Hearings in Culver City were held on June 21, 2011.

Enacted in January 1989, the Harris-Katz California Taxpayers' Bill of Rights Law requires that the BOE ensure that the rights of California taxpayers are protected during the assessment and collection of sales and use taxes. The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was expanded in 1993 to include special tax programs such as excise, fuel, and alcohol taxes, and the Morgan Property Taxpayers' Bill of Rights was added in 1994. The BOE is required by law to conduct public Bill of Rights hearings annually.

Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization

Legislative Committee chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate Office: www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra.htm

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate's 2009/10 Annual Report: www.boe.ca.gov/tra/tra0910.pdf

Publication 70, *Understanding Your Rights as a California Taxpayer*: www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub70.pdf

Taxes and Fees Administered by the California Board of Equalization, 2009-10: www.boe.ca.gov/pdf/pub41.pdf

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